

REMARKS

This is a divisional application of Application No. 09/366,767, filed August 4, 1999 (hereinafter the “‘767 Application”).

Claims 11-19, 41-45, 57-65, 67, 68, 71, and 72 are pending in this application. Claims 1-10, 20-40, 46-56, 66, 69, 70, and 73-76 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 11-19, 41-45, 57-65 have been amended as to matters of form. Claims 11, 15, 41, 57, and 71 are in independent form.

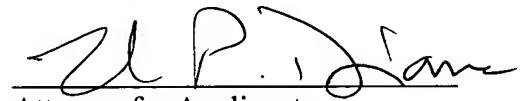
Applicants claim priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based upon Japanese Applications Nos. 10-221981, filed August 5, 1998, 10-246295, filed August 31, 1998, 10-253802, filed September 8, 1998, 10-333772, filed November 25, 1998, and 11-001102, filed January 6, 1999, and respectfully request acknowledgment of this claim and of receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents, which were filed on January 10, 2000, in the ‘767 Application.

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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